

Introduced by Senator Wright

February 24, 2012

An act to add and repeal Section 78302 of the Education Code, relating to community colleges.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1550, as introduced, Wright. Community colleges: extension courses.

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, which are administered by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. The governing board of any community college district is authorized, without approval of the board of trustees, to establish and maintain community service classes in civic, vocational, literacy, health, homemaking, technical, and general education, as specified.

This bill would authorize the governing board of any community college district, without approval of the board of governors, to establish and maintain an extension program offering credit courses. The bill would require this program, if it offers career technical education credit courses and workforce development courses, to be self-supporting, open to the public, and developed in conformance with specified statutory and regulatory guidelines. General Fund moneys would not be expended to establish or maintain the courses, nor would an extension program course be allowed to supplant regularly funded courses. Extension courses would not be allowed to reduce state-funded courses relating to basic skills. The bill would require district boards to annually certify compliance with these requirements, as specified.

This bill would allow community college districts to charge students for the actual costs of the courses, as defined. Each participating district

would be required to collect and keep records relating to the extension program and submit them to the chancellor's office by October 1 of each year. This information would, in turn, be submitted by the chancellor to the Legislative Analyst by November 1 of each year. The bill would require the Legislative Analyst to submit a written report to the Legislature by November 1, 2015, summarizing the information provided by the chancellor, assessing compliance of the program with the Legislature's intent, and suggesting any needed statutory improvements.

The provisions of the bill would remain in effect only until January 1, 2020.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 78302 is added to the Education Code,
2 to read:
3 78302. (a) The governing board of any community college
4 district may, without the approval of the Board of Governors of
5 the California Community Colleges, establish and maintain an
6 extension program offering credit courses.
7 (b) An extension program offering career technical education
8 credit courses and workforce development courses established
9 under this section shall have the following characteristics:
10 (1) The program shall be self-supporting, and all costs associated
11 with the program shall be recovered.
12 (2) Program enrollment shall be open to the public.
13 (3) The program shall be developed in conformance with the
14 Education Code and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations
15 governing community college credit courses.
16 (4) The program shall be subject to district collective bargaining
17 agreements.
18 (c) The governing board of a community college district shall
19 not expend General Fund moneys to establish and maintain an
20 extension course.
21 (d) An extension credit course shall not supplant any course
22 funded with state apportionments. A community college district
23 shall not reduce a state-funded course section needed by students
24 to achieve basic skills, workforce training, or transfer goals, with

1 the intent of reestablishing those course sections as part of the
2 extension program. The governing board of a community college
3 district shall annually certify compliance with this subdivision by
4 board action taken at a regular session of the governing board.

5 (e) The governing board of a community college district may
6 charge students enrolled in an extension course a fee not to exceed
7 the actual cost of maintaining that extension course. An actual
8 cost, within the meaning of this subdivision, shall include the actual
9 cost of instruction, necessary equipment and supplies, student
10 services and institutional support, and other costs of the district
11 used in calculating the costs of education for nonresident students.

12 (f) A degree credit course offered as an extension course shall
13 meet all of the requirements of subdivision (a) of Section 55002
14 of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations as it exists on
15 January 1, 2013.

16 (g) (1) Each community college district maintaining an
17 extension program offering credit courses under this section shall
18 collect and keep records that measure student participation, student
19 demographics, and student outcomes in a manner consistent with
20 measures collected by community college districts in regular credit
21 programs supported through state apportionments, including an
22 analysis of program effects, if any, on district workload and district
23 financial status. A community college district shall submit this
24 information to the Office of the Chancellor of the California
25 Community Colleges by October 1 of each year. For community
26 college districts operating more than one college, the evaluation
27 shall be for each participating college.

28 (2) The chancellor shall submit all of the information provided
29 by community college districts pursuant to paragraph (1) to the
30 Legislative Analyst by November 1 of each year. No later than
31 January 1, 2015, the Legislative Analyst shall submit to the
32 Legislature a written report that includes a summary of the
33 information provided pursuant to this paragraph, an assessment of
34 the extent to which community college extension programs are
35 operated in a manner consistent with legislative intent, and
36 suggestions to the Legislature for needed statutory improvements.
37 The report submitted under this paragraph shall be submitted in
38 compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

- 1 (h) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2020,
- 2 and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that
- 3 is enacted before January 1, 2020, deletes or extends that date.

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